



Patent  
Attorney Docket No. 1033528-000006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MAIL STOP AF

In re Patent Application of

Takeshi Tsubouchi

Application No.: 10/630,748

Filing Date: July 31, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: Michael G. Mendoza

Confirmation No.: 9932

Title: ADJUSTABLE COUPLING MECHANISM FOR THE CONDUIT ON A VENTRICULAR ASSIST

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a reply for the above-identified patent application.

A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.

Terminal Disclaimer(s) and the  \$65.00 (2814)  \$130.00 (1814) fee per Disclaimer due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.

Also enclosed is/are \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Small entity status is hereby claimed.

Applicant(s) requests continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the  \$395.00 (2801)  \$790.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).

Applicant(s) requests that any previously unentered after final amendments not be entered. Continued examination is requested based on the enclosed documents identified above.

Applicant(s) previously submitted \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

on \_\_\_\_\_, for which continued examination is requested.

Applicant(s) requests suspension of action by the Office until at least \_\_\_\_\_, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.

A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.

- No additional claim fee is required.  
 An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below.

| AMENDED CLAIMS   |               |   |              |                     |                |
|--|---------------|---|--------------|---------------------|----------------|
|  | No. of Claims | Highest No. of Claims Previously Paid For | Extra Claims | Rate                | Additional Fee |
| Total Claims   | 20            | MINUS 21 =                                | 0            | x \$50.00 (1202) =  | \$ 0.00        |
| Independent Claims   | 2             | MINUS 3 =                                 | 0            | x \$200.00 (1201) = | \$ 0.00        |
| If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$360.00 (1203)                                 |               |   |              |                     |                |
| Total Claim Amendment Fee  |               |   |              |                     | \$ 0.00        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Status claimed - subtract 50% of Total Claim Amendment Fee |               |   |              |                     | \$ 0.00        |
| <b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL CLAIM FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>   |               |   |              |                     | <b>\$ 0.00</b> |

- A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed for the fee due.  
 Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.  
 Charge \_\_\_\_\_ to credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL PC

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Date: January 31, 2006

By



Wendi Leigh Weinstein  
Registration No. 34,456



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Takeshi Tsubouchi )  
Application No.: 10/630,748 ) Group Art Unit: 3731  
Filed: July 31, 2003 ) Examiner: Michael G. Mendoza  
For: ADJUSTABLE COUPLING ) Confirmation No.: 9932  
MECHANISM FOR THE CONDUIT )  
ON A VENTRICULAR ASSIST )

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated November 1, 2005, having a three-month shortened statutory response period in which this Amendment is being timely filed, please amend the above identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the claim summary which begins on page two of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page eight of this paper.